

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE
455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 14400
San Francisco, CA 94102

Contact: Victoria B. Henley
Director-Chief Counsel
(415) 557-1200

FOR RELEASE
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HEARING SCHEDULED AND SPECIAL MASTERS APPOINTED IN
MATTER CONCERNING JUDGE EDMUND W. CLARKE, JR.

On December 29, 2015, the Commission on Judicial Performance announced it had instituted formal proceedings to inquire into matters concerning Judge Edmund W. Clarke, Jr., a judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles. The hearing has been scheduled to begin on Monday, March 7, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. in the courtroom of the California Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District, 300 South Spring Street, Second Floor, North Tower in Los Angeles, California. The hearing will be open to the public.

Under the rules that govern commission proceedings, the hearing will be conducted by special masters appointed by the Supreme Court: Honorable Carol D. Codrington, Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, Division Two; Honorable Vincent J. O'Neill, Jr., Superior Court of California, County of Ventura; Honorable Clay M. Smith, Superior Court of California, County of Orange.

At the hearing, the parties will have an opportunity to introduce evidence and examine and cross-examine witnesses. Commission Trial Counsel Mark A. Lizarraga and Assistant Trial Counsel Sei Shimoguchi will serve as Examiners for the commission. Judge Clarke is represented by Attorney Edith R. Matthai of Los Angeles.

Following completion of the hearing, the special masters will provide the commission with a report containing their findings with respect to the charges. The parties will have an opportunity to respond to the report through briefing and argument before the commission. If the commission determines that the charges are proved by clear and convincing evidence, it is empowered to impose discipline as provided in the California Constitution. Charges that the commission determines are not proved will be dismissed.

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The commission is composed of three judges, two lawyers, and six public members. The chairperson is Honorable Erica R. Yew of the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara.

For further information about the Commission on Judicial Performance, see the commission's website at <http://cjp.ca.gov>.